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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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Stephen C.P Joseph

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05/27/2008

3M INNOVATIVE PROPERTIES COMPANY

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ST. PAUL, MN 55133-3427

EXAMINER

CERNOCH, STEVEN MICHAEL

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3752

NOTIFICATION DATE

DELIVERY MODE

05/27/2008

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/534,093	Applicant(s) JOSEPH ET AL.	
	Examiner STEVEN CERNOCH	Art Unit 3752	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 March 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-47 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 8,41 and 45-47 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7,9-40 and 42-44 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 5/6/2005 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

In response to the amendment filed 3/11/2008, claims 1-7, 9-40 and 42-44 are pending and claims 8, 41 and 45-47 have been cancelled.

Drawings

The drawing objection made in the action dated 9/11/2007 stands until applicants file corrected drawing sheets. The objection is repeated below.

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the hook 338, the lid is permanently secured to the container by welding or adhesively bond, and the base, side wall and end wall are permanently joined together must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered. In addition, the drawings are also objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference number "11" of the collar in Fig. 8 should be recited as --111--, so as to clarify the confusion.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for

consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: The distinct phrase "wherein the liner is self-supporting" does not appear in the specification however it is noted that in a number of places throughout the specification it says the liner is able to stand on its own, unsupported. Appropriate correction is required.

Claims 11 and 12 are objected to because of the following informalities: Claim 11 is dependent on the cancelled claim 8 and claim 12 is dependent upon claim 11. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) The invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-3, 13, 15, 21, 22, 33, 34, 36, 37, 40, 42, 44 and 45 rejected under 35

U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lintvedt (US Pat. No. 5,143,294).

Regarding claim 1, figure 2 of Lintvedt et al. teaches the liquid supply assembly (16) for use with spraying apparatus (10) comprising a reservoir (16) for a liquid to be sprayed comprising a liner (20) which having a first end, a second end spaced from the first end, a side wall extending from the first end to the second end, a base at the second end, and an opening (32) defined by the first end; a lid (22) configured to fit within the opening in the liner, the lid having a central opening (Fig. 2, 24); a cap member (26) positioned over the lid, the cap member having a spout (14) providing a fluid outlet communicating with the liner, the spout being connectable to a spray gun and wherein the liner is self-supporting, an outer container for supporting the liner (16), wherein the cap member is releasably secured (30, 32, 14) to the reservoir, and a marginal edge of the opening in the lid is spaced inwardly from the side wall at the first end of the liner, and the reservoir can be detached from the cap member (26, 30, 32) for adding fluid to the reservoir through the opening in the lid.

Lintvedt et al. teaches a liner of a flexible nature which can be forced into self-supporting.

Regarding claim 2, Lintvedt et al. discloses the opening in the lid (Fig. 2, 24) which is oversize relative to the spout (20, 14).

Regarding claim 3, Lintvedt et al. discloses the collapsible liner with lines 55-58 in column 1 of the background of the invention.

Regarding claim 13, Lintvedt et al. teaches said screw-fit cap member (column 1, lines 63-65).

Regarding claim 15, Lintvedt et al. discloses said cap member, which comprises a base defining a socket with an internal screw thread, engage able with an externally threaded spigot bounding the opening in the reservoir (26, 30 and 32).

Regarding claims 21 and 22, the teaching of Lintvedt et al. teaches that the reservoir has a central longitudinal axis and the opening is located centrally on the longitudinal axis (regarding claim 21), or the spout is coaxial with the opening (regarding claim 22) (14, 28 and 20 of figure 2).

Regarding claims 33, 34 and 36, Lintvedt et al. discloses that the opening is sealed (regarding to claim 33) using a removable closure (regarding to claim 34), or the cap member is adapted to seal the opening until it is desired to use the liquid (regarding to claim 36)(column 3, lines 29-31).

Regarding claim 37, Lintvedt et al. discloses the cap member provided with a removable element to close the spout (34 and 26 of figure 3).

Regarding claim 40, figure 1 of Lintvedt et al. teaches the cap member with a base (26) and a spout (14), the cap member being releasably secured to the reservoir by engagement of complementary screw threads on the base and on the end wall around the opening (30 and 32), and the spout extends from the base away from the reservoir (20), the spout providing a fluid outlet of reduced cross-section relative to the opening (14 and 20).

Regarding claim 42, Lintvedt et al. teaches that the reservoir has a central longitudinal axis and the opening and spout are arranged coaxially with respect to the longitudinal axis (14, 28 and 20).

In regards to claim 44, figure 1 of Lintvedt et al. discloses that the opening is oversized relative to the flow requirements when the reservoir is connected to the spray gun in use (20), and the fluid outlet provided by the spout is of reduced cross-section relative to the opening (14 and 20), wherein the opening permits fast-filling of the reservoir when the cap member is detached from the reservoir for adding fluid to the reservoir through the opening (26 and 20).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claims 20 and 43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lintvedt et al. (US Pat No 5,143,294).

Regarding to claim 20 and 43, Lintvedt et al. teaches all the limitations of the claim except for the opening in the lid dimensions of 50-60 mm and the spout diameter of 10-15 mm (regarding to claim 20) or the cap member being releasably connectable to the spray gun by means requiring less than one complete turn (regarding to claim 43) as required. However, such features of the opening dimensions of 50-60 mm and the spout diameter of 10-15 mm, or the cap member being releasably connectable to the spray gun by means requiring less than one complete turn are considered arbitrary obvious design choices, because Applicant has not disclosed that the reservoir opening of 50-60 mm and the spout diameter of 10-15 mm, or the reservoir opening of the cap member being releasably connectable to the spray gun by means requiring less than one complete turn provides an advantage, is used for a particular purpose, or solves a

stated problem. One of ordinary skill in the art, furthermore, would have expected Applicant's invention to perform equally well with either the claimed dimensions or the dimensions of Lintvedt et al. Therefore, it would have been an obvious matter of design choice to modify the device of Lintvedt et al. to obtain the invention as specified in claim 20 or 43 of the instant application.

Claims 4-8, 11, 14, 23-27, 30-32, 35, 46 and 47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lintvedt et al. (US Pat No 5,143,294) in view of Joseph et al. (PCT Pub No WO 98/32539)(hereinafter as Joseph et al.'39).

Regarding to claim 4, Lintvedt et al. does not disclose the side wall of the liner being flexible in comparison to the base so as to be capable of deforming to collapse the liner in an axial direction from the second end towards the first end. However, Joseph et al.'39 discloses such features of disclose the side wall being flexible in comparison to the base so as to be capable of deforming to collapse the reservoir in an axial direction from the second end towards the first end (13 and 15 in fig. 7 and page 9, lines 3-6). Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time of the invention to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the apparatus of Lintvedt et al. with the sidewall being flexible in comparison to the end wall so as to be capable of deforming to collapse the reservoir in an axial direction from the second end towards the first end as taught by Joseph et al.'39. The motivation to combine is a flexible reservoir is known in the art.

Regarding to claim 5, Lintvedt et al. does not teach that the liner is provided with a comparatively-rigid base at the second end such that the liner can be inverted and

stood on the base for adding liquid through the opening in the liner. However, Joseph et al.'39 teaches disclose such limitations of the liner is provided with a comparatively-rigid base at the second end such that the reservoir can be inverted and stood on the base for adding liquid through the opening in the liner (1 and 11 in fig. 5 and page 9, lines 3-6) are old and well known. Thus, it would have been obvious at the time of the invention to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the apparatus of Lintvedt et al. with the reservoir is provided with a comparatively-rigid base at the second end such that the reservoir can be inverted and stood on the base for adding liquid through the opening in the end wall taught by Joseph et al.'39. The motivation to combine is a flexible reservoir is known in the art.

Regarding to claims 6 and 7, Lintvedt et al. does not disclose that the liner is formed in one piece and that the base and sidewall are formed in one piece with the liner being formed as a separate piece that is secured to the sidewall. However, Joseph et al.'39 discloses such limitations of the liner is formed in one piece and that the base and sidewall are formed in one piece with the liner being formed as a separate piece that is secured to the sidewall (15 and 13 of fig. 2, and page 9, lines 6-8). Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time of the invention to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the apparatus of Lintvedt et al. with the reservoir is formed in one piece and that the base and sidewall are formed in one piece with the end wall being formed as a separate piece that is secured to the sidewall taught by Joseph et al.'39. The motivation to combine is a flexible reservoir is known in the art.

Regarding to claim 11, it is noted that Lintvedt et al. does not disclose that the lid is releasably secured to the liner. However, Joseph et al.'39 discloses such limitation of the lid is releasably secured to the liner (page 16, line 3-5).

Regarding to claim 14, Lintvedt et al. does not teach that the cap member is a snap-fit on the reservoir, however, Joseph et al.'39 does disclose the claimed limitation of the cap member is a snap-fit on the reservoir (page 12, lines 15-20). Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time of the invention to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the apparatus of Lintvedt et al. with the cap member as a snap-fit on the reservoir taught by Joseph et al.'39. The motivation to combine is a flexible reservoir is known in the art.

Regarding to claim 23, Lintvedt et al. does not specifically disclose that the cap member is releasably connectable to the spraying apparatus, however, Joseph et al.'39 teaches such claimed limitation of the cap member is releasably connectable to the spraying apparatus (page 16, line 3-5). Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time of the invention to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the apparatus of Lintvedt et al. with the cap member is releasably connectable to the spraying apparatus taught by Joseph et al.'39. The motivation to combine is a flexible reservoir is known in the art.

Regards to claim 24, Lintvedt et al. discloses that the spraying apparatus is provided with co-operating bayonet type formations (column 3, lines 34-37) but does not disclose the bayonet formations of the cap member. However, Joseph et al.'39 teaches such limitation of the bayonet formations of the cap member (page 8, lines 17-19 and

26-30). Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time of the invention to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the apparatus of Lintvedt et al. with the bayonet formations of the cap member taught by Joseph et al.'39. The motivation to combine is bayonet formations are known in the art.

Regarding to claims 25-27, Lintvedt et al. does not disclose that the spraying apparatus is provided with a socket to receive the spout and the bayonet type formations are engage able to retain the spout in the socket, that the bayonet type formations are engage able within the socket, and that the spout is provided with opposed bayonet lugs at the free end that are received in bayonet grooves in the socket as required. However, Joseph et al.'39 discloses that such features of the spraying apparatus is provided with a socket to receive the spout and the bayonet type formations are engage able to retain the spout in the socket, that the bayonet type formations are engage able within the socket, and that the spout is provided with opposed bayonet lugs at the free end that are received in bayonet grooves in the socket (11, 18, 20 21, 22 and 23 of Fig. 4, and page 8, lines 17-19 and 26-30) are old and well known. Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time of the invention to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the apparatus of Lintvedt et al. with the spraying apparatus is provided with a socket to receive the spout and the bayonet type formations are engage able to retain the spout in the socket, that the bayonet type formations are engage able within the socket, and that the spout is provided with opposed bayonet lugs at the free end that are received in bayonet grooves in the socket

taught by Joseph et al.'39. The motivation to combine is that bayonet formations are known in the art.

Regards to claim 30, Lintvedt et al. does not teach that the cap member includes a filter for removing any unwanted solid particles contained in the liquid withdrawn from the reservoir. However, Joseph et al.'39 teaches such claimed limitations of the cap member includes a filter for removing any unwanted solid particles contained in the liquid withdrawn from the reservoir (42 and 45 in Fig. 16). Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time of the invention to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the apparatus of Lintvedt et al. with the cap member includes a filter for removing any unwanted solid particles contained in the liquid withdrawn from the reservoir taught by Joseph et al.'39. The motivation to combine is a filter is known in the art.

Regarding to claim 31, Lintvedt et al. does not disclose that the filter is located in the spout, however, Joseph et al.'39 broadly disclose such claimed limitations of the filter is located in the spout (42 and 45 of Fig. 17). Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time of the invention to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the apparatus of Lintvedt et al. with the filter is located in the spout taught by Joseph et al.'39. The motivation to combine is a filter is known in the art.

Regards to claim 32, Lintvedt et al. does not teach that the filter is located in the cap member to extend across the inner end of the spout as required, however, Joseph et al.'39 discloses the filter is located in the cap member to extend across the inner end of the spout (42 and 45 of fig. 15). Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time of

the invention to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the apparatus of Lintvedt et al. with the filter is located in the cap member to extend across the inner end of the spout taught by Joseph et al.'39. The motivation to combine is a filter is known in the art.

Regards to claim 35, Lintvedt et al. does not disclose that the cap member is adapted to rupture the membrane, however, Joseph et al.'39 does disclose the cap member is adapted to rupture the membrane (page 15, lines 11-12). Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time of the invention to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the apparatus of Lintvedt et al. with the cap member is adapted to rupture the membrane taught by Joseph et al.'39. The motivation to combine is a rupturable membrane is known in the art.

Claims 9, 10, 12 and 17-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lintvedt et al. (US Pat No 5,143,294) in view of Joseph et al. (PCT Pub No WO 98/32539)(hereinafter as Joseph et al.'39) and further in view of Joseph et al. (PCT Pub No WO02/085533)(hereinafter as Joseph et al.'33).

Regarding to claim 9, the teachings of Lintvedt et al. and Joseph et al.'39 do not specifically disclose that the lid is permanently secured to the liner as required. However, Joseph et al.'33 broadly disclose that such feature of the lid is permanently secured to the container (pages 6-7, lines 31-32 and 1). Thus, it would have been obvious at the time of the invention to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the apparatus of Lintvedt et al. and Joseph et al.'39 with the lid is permanently secured

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to the container taught by Joseph et al.'33. The motivation to combine is a flexible reservoir is known in the art.

Regards to claim 10, the teachings of Lintvedt et al. and Joseph et al.'39 do not explicitly teach that the lid is welded or adhesively bonded to the liner, however, Joseph et al.'33 discloses that the claimed limitations the lid is welded or adhesively bonded to the container (page 6, lines 11-12, 31-32 and page 7, line 1). Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time of the invention to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the apparatus of Lintvedt et al. and Joseph et al.'39 with the lid is welded or adhesively bonded to the container taught by Joseph et al.'33. The motivation to combine is a lid is known in the art.

Regards to claim 12, Lintvedt et al. and Joseph et al.'39 do not show that the lid is clamped to the liner as required, however, Joseph et al.'33 teaches that that the lid is clamped to the container (page 6, lines 12-14, 31-32 and page 7, line 1). Hence, it would have been obvious at the time of the invention to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the apparatus of Lintvedt et al. and Joseph et al.'39 with the lid is clamped to the container taught by Joseph et al.'33. The motivation to combine is a lid is known in the art.

Regards to claims 17-19, Lintvedt et al. and Joseph et al. '39 doe not show that the spout has a diameter less than half the diameter of the opening in the lid (regarding to claim 17), or less than a third of the diameter of the opening in the lid (regarding to claim 18), or less than a quarter of the diameter of the opening in the lid (regarding to claim 19), however, Joseph et al. '33 does teach that the spout has a diameter less than

half the diameter of the opening in the lid (regarding to claim 17), or less than a third of the diameter of the opening in the lid (regarding to claim 18), or less than a quarter of the diameter of the opening in the lid (regarding to claim 19) (Fig. 2, #'s 16 and 12).

Claims 16, 28 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lintvedt et al. (US Pat No 5,143,294) in view of Joseph et al. (PCT Pub No WO 98/32539)(hereinafter as Joseph et al.'39) in further view of Petrie et al. (US Pat No 6,595,441).

Regarding to claim 16, the teachings of Lintvedt et al. and Joseph et al.'39 do not disclose that the opening in the reservoir has an internal screw thread and the cap member has a base provided with an externally threaded portion engage able with the internal screw thread as required. However, Petrie et al. discloses such claimed limitations of the opening in the reservoir has an internal screw thread and the cap member has a base provided with an externally threaded portion engage able with the internal screw thread (11, 36 and 34 of Fig. 3). Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time of the invention to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the apparatus of Lintvedt et al. and Joseph et al.'39 with the reservoir has an internal screw thread and the cap member has a base provided with an externally threaded portion engage able with the internal screw thread taught by Petrie et al. The motivation to combine is a flexible reservoir is known in the art.

Regarding to claim 28, Lintvedt et al. and Joseph et al.'39 do not teach that the bayonet type formations are engage able externally of the socket, however, Petrie et al. broadly discloses the claimed limitations of the bayonet type formations are engage

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able externally of the socket (34 and 45 of Fig. 2). Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time of the invention to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the apparatus of Lintvedt et al. and Joseph et al.'39 with the bayonet type formations are engage able externally of the socket taught by Petrie et al. The motivation to combine is bayonet formations are known in the art.

Regarding to claim 29, the teachings of Lintvedt et al. and Joseph et al.'39 do not disclose that the socket has an external flange co-operable with a pair of hook members extending from the cap member on opposite sides of the spout as required. However, Petrie et al. teaches the socket has an external flange co-operable with a pair of hook members extending from the cap member on opposite sides of the spout (34, 48, 49, 50, 52 and 54 of Fig. 3). Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time of the invention to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the apparatus of Lintvedt et al. and Joseph et al.'39 with the socket has an external flange co-operable with a pair of hook members extending from the cap member on opposite sides of the spout taught by Petrie et al. The motivation to combine is a socket with hook members is known in the art.

Claims 38 and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lintvedt et al. (US Pat No 5,143,294) in view of Joseph et al. (PCT Pub No WO98/32539) in further view of Holzner et al. (US Pat No 5,421,489).

Regarding claim 38, it is noted that the teachings of Lintvedt et al. and Joseph et al.'39 do not disclose the rupturable membrane provided across the outer end of the spout as required. However, the teaching of Holzner et al. discloses that such feature

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of the rupturable membrane provided across the outer end of the spout (column 1, lines 21-22) is old and well known. Hence, it would have been obvious at the time of the invention to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the apparatus of Lintvedt et al. and Joseph et al.'39 with the rupturable membrane provided across the outer end of the spout taught by Holzner et al. The motivation to combine is a rupturable membrane is known in the art.

In regards to claim 39, Lintvedt et al. and Joseph et al.'39 do explicitly teach that the spraying apparatus is adapted to rupture the membrane, however, Holzner et al. teaches that such limitation of the spraying apparatus is adapted to rupture the membrane (column 1, lines 22-25) is old and well known. Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time of the invention to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the apparatus of Lintvedt et al. and Joseph et al.'39 with the spraying apparatus is adapted to rupture the membrane taught by Holzner et al. The motivation to combine is a rupturable membrane is known in the art.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to all claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to STEVEN CERNOCH whose telephone number is (571)270-3540. The examiner can normally be reached on IFP.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Len Tran can be reached on (571)272-1184. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/S. C./
Examiner, Art Unit 3752
/Len Tran/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3752